

Representatives Committee Report to IYMC 2025

The Representatives Committee met eight times in the past year by video conference. We submit for yearly meeting consideration a budget and officers for the coming year.

The apportionments for monthly meetings remained the same for 2025-2026 for a total \$71,350.

There are a few changes proposed for the 2025-26 budget: increases to Publication Committee, Junior Yearly Meeting and Young Adult Friends, and decreases to Young Friends, Pendle Hill Scholarship Match and Quaker Youth Camp Scholarship.

We have continued the \$5,000 set aside in the budget for a joint IYMC and Scattergood Project to foster closer ties between the school and the yearly meeting.

The yearly meeting provides funds for delegates to attend national Quaker organization meetings. The proposed budget shows delegate expenses divided evenly between the total number of delegates. These funds support delegate attendance, but they don't cover total expenses. Delegates who wish to be reimbursed above the budgeted amount are invited to submit receipts to the yearly meeting clerk, with a request for reimbursement. The overall budget includes funds which can be used as needed to cover additional delegate expenses.

We are so grateful for the service that our current officers provide to the yearly meeting. We would like our current officers to continue to serve the yearly meeting for 2025-2026 with one small change to the positions of treasurer and assistant treasurer.

We recommend as clerk, Carol Gilbert; assistant clerk, Bob Winkleblack; treasurer, Catherine Dorenbach; assistant treasurer, Rebecca Bergus; statistical recorder, Tim Shipe and assistant statistical recorder, Carole Winkleblack.

A large part of our discussions this past year revolved around the question of where and how to hold our 2026 annual sessions. We will not be able to meet at Scattergood due to construction. An ad hoc committee of Ann Robinson, Stan Sanders and Catherine Dorenbach explored various options over the past several months. As a result, Representatives offer two options for the yearly meeting body to consider.

1. Holding our 2026 yearly meeting completely online.

The main advantage of meeting online is the difference in cost to the yearly meeting. There is a relatively small cost to cover the expense of having our clerk, assistant clerk and tech person in central location to facilitate our business. We roughly estimate this to cost the yearly meeting about \$3,000 or about \$10-15 per person per day.

2. Continue as now, (Hybrid Meeting) at Grinnell College.

One advantage of meeting in person is we can continue to worship, do business, nurture our relationships and introduce our newest attendees and Friends into our larger Quaker family. Grinnell is also a shorter distance for many IYMC Friends who have traveled to Scattergood for many years for yearly meeting.

Grinnell has:

A large meeting room, several smaller meeting rooms and lounge areas.

Air conditioning.

Is handicap accessible.

The meals include a wide variety of food options.

The main disadvantage of meeting at Grinnell College is the increase in cost to the yearly meeting.

For **2024** annual sessions IYMC (Entertainment Committee) paid Scattergood \$11,150. Based on 80 attendees, this would be about \$140 per person. Per day approximately \$35.

Meeting at Grinnell in **2026** the *estimated* cost would be \$18,390 (based on 45 residence hall beds and meals) to \$23,850 (based on 60 residence hall beds and meals).

If we again assume 80 attendees, the range of cost per person would be:

On the low end about \$230 per person. Per day approximately \$60.

On the high end about \$300 per person. Per day approximately \$75.

It is difficult to predict what attendance might be in a different location. We have made our best effort at an estimated cost. Our tradition has been not to have an established fee to attend annual sessions, but each person is asked to contribute what they are able. Historically, our contributions have covered our costs. If contributions fall short in 2026, we could rely on surplus in the IYMC budget.

Two Options

Option 1: Have annual sessions with everybody online except the clerk, asst. clerk and tech facilitator at a single location.

Option 2: Hold annual sessions as we do now, (in person/hybrid) at Grinnell College.

Which option does the body prefer?

For the committee,

Bob Yeats, clerk